

**INDIANA ARTS COMMISSION
QUARTERLY BUSINESS MEETING**

December 7, 2012
Hilbert Circle Theatre
Indianapolis, Indiana

Jon Ford, Chair

Minutes

Members present: Kathy Anderson, Jon Ford, Pam Hicks, Linda Levell, Suzie Rentschler, Micah Smith, Sherry Stark, Nancy Stewart, Trevor Yager

Members via teleconference: Karen Ellerbrook

Members absent: Gil Cárdenas, Susan Hardwick, Judy Hess, Jeff Kirk, Al Rent

IAC staff present: Michelle Anderson, April Blevins, Susan Britsch, Kristina Davis, Laura Frank, Bobbie Garver, Dennis Hardin, Lewis Ricci, Rex Van Zant

Guests: Donna Catalano (Regional Arts Partners), Doug Huntsinger (Office of the Governor)

1. **Welcome and Introductions.** Indiana Arts Commission chair Jon Ford called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m. and asked everyone to introduce themselves.

2. **Consent Agenda.** IAC Commissioner Suzie Rentschler moved to adopt the consent agenda, consisting of today's agenda and the minutes from the September 14, 2012 meeting of the full Commission. IAC Commissioner Linda Levell seconded the motion. The motion passed.

3. **Chair and Executive Reports.**

A. Mr. Ford reported that IAC Commissioners Gil Cárdenas, Karen Ellerbrook, Pam Hicks, and Suzie Rentschler have been re-appointed by the Governor to serve a second term as Commissioner. Mr. Ford also reported that IAC Commissioner Linda Goad from Carmel has resigned her commission, effective immediately. Mr. Ford then welcomed IAC's newest Commissioner, Micah L. Smith from Indianapolis.

B. IAC Executive Director Lewis Ricci reported on progress in forming an advocacy advisory group which will inform the Executive Committee on advocacy matters. Mr. Ricci would like the advisory group to consist of 3 current Commissioners, 3 former Commissioners, 3 members of the Indiana Coalition for the Arts, and 3 at-large members. Mr. Ford and Mr. Ricci have been in contact with certain individuals to become members of this group. Mr. Ricci would also like to select a few people from this group to form an IAC transition team to interact with the office of Governor-elect Pence.

C. IAC Marketing and Communications Director Rex Van Zant presented a handout (attached) showing the current balance of the Cultural Trust, and the remaining available interest. Funds from available interest in the Cultural Trust are used to support IAC's Arts in Education program. Mr. Ford then opened a discussion of philanthropic giving to the IAC by members of the Commission and former Commissioners. Several former Commissioners have expressed interest in donating directly to the Arts Commission or establishing posthumous gifts. Ms. Ellerbrook explained her rationale for making it possible, but strictly voluntary, for private individuals to contribute to IAC. Mr. Ford has asked IAC Commissioner Jeff Kirk, who is an attorney, to examine legal ramifications of donations to a state agency. IAC will continue to pursue the idea of establishing some sort of financial vehicle that would allow such donations.

D. Mr. Ricci reported that four communities have submitted proposals to host the 2013 Governor's Arts Awards; the Executive Committee will review the proposals to select the host site. Nominations for award recipients are open until December 21. Mr. Ricci offered his thanks to Doug Huntsinger of the Governor's Office, who is attending his last Commission meeting.

4. **Financials.** IAC Deputy Director Michelle Anderson presented a handout (attached) showing the FY 2013 IAC budget, current through October 31, 2012. Ms. Anderson answered questions from the Commission. Mr. Ricci presented a handout ("Special Initiatives", attached) which explains three "change packages" that IAC has submitted in conjunction with its proposed FY 2014 – 2015 budget. IAC has requested: \$250,000 per year in additional funding for arts projects in rural areas; \$325,00 per year to support Arts in Education grants; \$500,000 for participation in the Indiana Bicentennial, perhaps in the way of public art in state parks.

5. **Executive Director Report.**

A. Mr. Ricci discussed recent meetings of a study committee whose purpose is to review and recommend changes to the formula IAC uses to determine the amount of funding to be given to Regional Arts Partners for re-granting. The study committee, having met several times, has recommended changes for FY 2014 as explained in the attached handout ("FY 2014 Grant Parameters"). The changes will provide a state-wide level of consistency in grant amounts to similar-sized organizations with similar grant application scores. Mr. Ricci explained the proposed changes and offered thanks to the study committee. He then asked the Commission to express by vote its approval to move forward under the parameters as explained. IAC Commissioner Nancy Stewart moved to endorse the FY 2014 grant parameters as presented, pending further input from Regional Arts Partners and grantees in the affected categories. Ms. Rentschler seconded the motion. Roll call as follows:

Anderson	Yes
Ellerbrook	Yes
Ford	Yes

Hicks	Yes
Levell	Yes
Rentschler	Yes
Smith	Yes
Stark	Yes
Stewart	Yes
Yager	Yes

The motion passed.

B. Mr. Van Zant presented a handout ("Media Coverage", attached) reporting on recent IAC marketing and website activities. Mr. Ricci announced that IAC Communications Manager Laura Frank has accepted a position with the IUPUI Alumni Association, and will be leaving IAC before the end of the year. Everyone wished her well.

C. Mr. Ricci reported on three technical assistance/capacity building projects that are in the works. A workshop entitled "Strategies for Building Diversity and Community Inclusion" will be held in April 2013 at the University of Notre Dame; IAC has partnered with the Ohio Arts Council and the Michigan Arts Council. Another workshop entitled "Creating Vibrant Communities through the Arts" will be held at Hanover College in June 2013; IAC has partnered with the Kentucky Arts Council and the Ohio Arts Council to present this workshop. IAC Community Development Manager Susan Britsch reported on the progress of an arts-in-education study being conducted by Robert Sabol of Purdue University; Mr. Sabol is president of the National Education Association, and is looking at statistical studies of Indiana secondary schools, regarding the presence or absence of arts curriculum and the relationship to graduation rates and college acceptance.

6. Committee Reports.

A. Programs, Grants and Services Committee. PGSC Committee Chair Pam Hicks presented a handout (attached) summarizing the latest meeting of the committee. She then presented a handout (attached) showing the scores from the recent Statewide Cultural Districts review panel. Two communities scored highly enough to be designated as Statewide Cultural Districts, and those communities have been recommended for approval by the Programs, Grants and Services Committee and the Executive Committee. IAC Community Development Manager Kristina Davis, added that seven communities applied for the designation in this cycle, and that the quality of the applications has improved markedly over past years. IAC Commissioner Nancy Stewart from Fort Wayne said that her community is very supportive of the process and that the encouragement and assistance provided by IAC was appreciated, even though Fort Wayne did not score highly enough to be approved.

1. Ms. Hicks moved to approve the City of Columbus as a Statewide Cultural District. IAC Commissioner Trevor Yager seconded the motion. Roll call as follows:

Anderson	Yes
Ellerbrook	Yes
Ford	Yes
Hicks	Yes
Levell	Yes
Rentschler	Yes
Smith	Yes
Stark	Abstain
Stewart	Yes
Yager	Yes

The motion passed.

Ms. Hicks moved to approve the Town of Nashville as a Statewide Cultural District.
Mr. Yager seconded the motion. Roll call as follows:

Anderson	Abstain
Ellerbrook	Yes
Ford	Yes
Hicks	Yes
Levell	Yes
Rentschler	Yes
Smith	Yes
Stark	Yes
Stewart	Yes
Yager	Yes

The motion passed.

Ms. Hicks presented a handout (attached) showing the scores from the recent Arts in Education grant review panel. The score sheet indicates five of eight applicants achieving a score of 80 or above.

2. Ms Hicks moved to approve Arts in Education grants to the five applicants who scored above 80 in the panel review. Ms. Levell seconded the motion.
Roll call as follows:

Anderson	Yes
Ellerbrook	Yes
Ford	Yes
Hicks	Yes
Levell	Yes
Rentschler	Yes
Smith	Yes
Stark	Yes
Stewart	Yes
Yager	Yes

The motion passed.

B. Committee on the Future. Mr. Ricci presented a handout ("Existing and Possible Partnerships", attached) showing the names of Commissioners and staff, arranged in small groups, who have agreed to serve as monitors of the IAC Strategic Plan in various areas of statewide impact. Each of the small groups then met separately while pertinent elements of the plan were discussed at length.

7. **Regional Arts Partners Update.** Donna Catalano, president of the Regional Arts Partners Consortium, reported on the latest meeting of the RAPs. She commented that the allocation review process has been informative and productive and that the Regional Partners will be satisfied with the new parameters for FY 2014. She also congratulated IAC Commissioner Pam Hicks on receiving the Indiana Coalition for the Arts Volunteer of the Year CALA Award. Those in attendance honored Ms. Hicks with a round of applause.

8. **Old Business.** Mr. Ford thanked Mr. Ricci for his hospitality in hosting the Commission for a Christmas reception at his downtown residence.

9. **New Business.** There was no new business.

10. **Closing Remarks.** Mr. Ford thanked Ms. Hicks for arranging to hold this meeting at Hilbert Circle Theatre and for providing refreshments. Mr. Ford thanked everyone for their participation in today's meeting.

11. **Adjourn.** Ms. Rentschler moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Levell seconded the motion. The motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 11:25 a.m.